

Rappite House  
North side of Granary Street  
between West and Main Streets  
New Harmony  
Posey County  
Indiana

HABS No. IND-43

HABS  
IND  
65-NEHAR  
11-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction  
143 South Third Street  
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

## RAPPITE HOUSE

HABS  
IND  
65NEH,  
11-

Location: North side of Granary Street between West and Main Streets, New Harmony, Posey County, Indiana

Present Owner: Mrs. Jane B. Owen

Present Occupant: Renter

Present Use: Residence

Brief Statement of Significance: This two-story, frame, gable-roofed house is characteristic of the Rappite houses in New Harmony. Built in 1815, it was originally owned by the New Harmony Society under George Rapp. Restored by present owner.

Historical Background of Rappite Community: New Harmony was the home of two of the most widely known Utopian experiments tried in the United States. The first, the Harmony Society, from 1814 to 1824, was under the spiritual leadership of George Rapp. The community prospered under the business management of his adopted son, Frederick. This group, from Wurttemberg, Germany, united by their common belief in the imminent second coming of Christ, practiced celibacy. The second was under Robert Owen, a Scotch philanthropist and reformer, who brought scientists and teachers to the Middle West, including William Maclure. Robert Owen named the town New Harmony in 1826.

Prepared by Dorothy E. Green  
National Park Service  
October 1961